

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03

H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 OES-03 OIC-02 /069 W  
----- 075085

P R 102248Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2800

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNEP, UN

SUBJ: DEPARTURE OF UNEP EXDIR STRONG

REF: A) STATE 242102; B) NAIROBI 8911

1. SUMMARY: SYG WALDHEIM TOLD AMBASSADOR BENNETT THAT HE WILL PROCEED PROMPTLY IN AN EFFORT TO ARRANGE FOR TOLBA TO SUCCEED STRONG UNTIL THE END OF 1976. END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR BENNETT CARRIED OUT THE REFTL (A) INSTRUCTION WITH SYG WALDHEIM ON OCTOBER 10. BENNETT EMPHASIZED OUR INTEREST IN PROMPT ACTION TO HAVE TOLBA APPOINTED TO FILL THE UNEP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POST THROUGH 1976 WITH NO COMMITMENT TO BE CONTINUED BEYOND THAT TIME. HE ALSO TOLD WALDHEIM OF OUR VIEW THAT THE WEO GROUP SHOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUT FORWARD A SUCCESSOR FOR STRONG.

3. WALDHEIM INDICATED THAT HE IS DISTRESSED TO SEE STRONG DEPART BUT OBVIOUSLY COULD NOT STAND IN HIS WAY. PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU HAD BEEN IN PERSONAL TOUCH WITH  
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WALDHEIM ABOUT THE MATTER AND AGREED THAT STRONG SHOULD

STAY ON UNTIL THE END OF THIS YEAR TO PERMIT AN ORDERLY TRANSITION.

4. WALDHEIM RECOGNIZED THE SIGNIFICANT US INTEREST IN THE UNEP EXECUTIVE DIRECTORSHIP. HE AGREED THAT THE BEST SOLUTION WOULD BE TO APPOINT TOLBA THROUGH 1976 WITHOUT COMMITMENT FOR A SUBSEQUENT TERM. THIS SOLUTION HAD BEEN RECOMMENDED BY STRONG AND THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT ALSO BELIEVED IT WOULD BE THE BEST WAY OUT. WALDHEIM SAID HE IS CONSULTING HIS LEGAL SERVICES TO SEE WHETHER HE CAN ACT ON HIS OWN OR WHETHER GA APPROVAL IS ESSENTIAL. HE WOULD TRY TO PROCEED EXPEDITIOUSLY IN ANY CASE.

5. LOOKING TOWARD THE QUESTION OF A PERMANENT SUCCESSOR FOR STRONG, WALDHEIM SAID IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO KEEP IN MIND THE FACT THAT THE AFRICANS--AT THE TIME KHANE WAS APPOINTED TO HEAD UNIDO--HAD PROMISED THE LATIN AMERICANS THEY WOULD SUPPORT AN LA CANDIDATE FOR A MAJOR UN POST. WALDHEIM THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO FIND A QUALIFIED CANDIDATE FOR UNEP FOR ONE OF THE MORE DEVELOPED LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, PERHAPS ARGENTINA OR BRAZIL. HE RECOGNIZED, AND AMBASSADOR BENNETT CONFIRMED, THE US VIEW THAT THE WEO GROUP HAS A PRIOR CLAIM ON THE UNEP JOB, HOWEVER.

BENNETT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 10 OCT 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** PORG, APER, UNEP, UN, (STRONG)  
**To:** STATE  
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